

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN DANIEL FUCHS**, on January 27, 2003 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Daniel Fuchs, Chairman (R)
Rep. Ronald Devlin, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Ron Erickson, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Joan Andersen (R)
Rep. Joe Balyeat (R)
Rep. Gary Branae (D)
Rep. Eileen J. Carney (D)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Larry Cyr (D)
Rep. Kim Gillan (D)
Rep. Verdell Jackson (R)
Rep. Bob Lake (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Jesse Laslovich (D)
Rep. Jim Peterson (R)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Karl Waitschies (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Gary Forrester (D)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Kathleen Ely, Committee Secretary
Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch

Please Note:

Video-taped Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 204, 1/13/2003; HB 355,
1/13/2003; HB 413, 1/24/2003
Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON HB 204

Sponsor: REP. LAWSON, HD 80, WHITEFISH

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

8:02 a.m. REP. LAWSON

Proponents' Testimony:

8:10 a.m. John Morrison, State Auditor of Montana

8:25 a.m. SEN. COONEY, SD 26, HELENA

8:28 a.m. Tanya Ask, Blue Cross/Blue Shield

8:30 a.m. Darrell Rud, School Administrators of Montana

EXHIBIT(tah17a01)

8:33 a.m. Lance Melton, Montana School Board Administrators

8:35 a.m. Alve Thomas, Montana Rural Educators Association

8:36 a.m. Dr. Richard Sargent, Montana Lung Association

EXHIBIT(tah17a02)

EXHIBIT(tah17a03)

8:43 a.m. Pat Callbeck Harper, AARP Montana

EXHIBIT(tah17a04)

8:48 a.m. Charlotte Thomas, AARP and Montana Retired Teachers

EXHIBIT(tah17a05)

8:50 a.m. Bud Johnson, Montana Federation of Independent
Businessowners

8:53 a.m. Aidan Myrhe, Montana Chamber of Commerce

8:55 a.m. Bob Billings, Office Outfitters

8:58 a.m. Sammy Butler, Montana Nurses' Association

8:59 a.m. Pat Melby, Montana Medical Association

9:00 a.m. Todd Lucien, MEA-MFT

9:00 a.m. Denise Pazzini, New West Health Care

9:00 a.m. Judy Smith, W.O.R.D., Fair Share Network

EXHIBIT(tah17a06)

EXHIBIT(tah17a07)

9:03 a.m. Linda Gryzcm, Montana Womens Lobby

9:04 a.m. Dick Paulsen, American Lung Association of the Northern Rockies

9:08 a.m. Allysha Cohenour, SASY

9:09 a.m. Mike Foster, St. Vincent Health Care in Billings, St. James Health Care in Butte, Holy Rosary in Miles City

9:11 a.m. Erin McGowan, Protect Montana Kids

EXHIBIT(tah17a08)

9:12 a.m. Mary Caferro, WEEL

9:14 a.m. Kristianne Wilson, Vice-President, Strategy Development, Deaconess Billings Clinic

EXHIBIT(tah17a09)

9:16 a.m. Chris Christiaens, Montana Association of Social Workers

9:17 a.m. Cliff Christian, Montana Heart Association

EXHIBIT(tah17a10)

EXHIBIT(tah17a11)

9:19 a.m. **Tom Clinch, Montana School Services Association**

9:20 a.m. **Mary McCue, Montana Dental Association**

9:21 a.m. **Jani McCaul, Montana Association of Independent Living, Y.M.C.A.**

9:21 a.m. **Carl Schweitzer, Flathead Valley Chamber of Commerce**

9:22 a.m. **Frank Cody, Montana Health Care Association**

9:22 a.m. **Vernell Bertelson, Montana Senior Citizens' Association**

9:23 a.m. **Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association, Chairman, Montana Alliance**

9:24 a.m. **Butch Waddill**

Opponents' Testimony:

9:26 a.m. **Lee Luxe, Miles City, Montana**

9:34 a.m. **Jerome Anderson, R. J. Reynolds**

EXHIBIT(tah17a12)

EXHIBIT(tah17a13)

9:50 a.m. **Mark Parker, Owner, Pennington's**

9:53 a.m. **Aimee Grmoycz, Phillip Morris**

9:59 a.m. **Ronna Cristman, Petroleum Marketers, Convenience Stores**

EXHIBIT(tah17a14)

10:06 a.m. **Beth Sirr, FNP.C, Leo Pocha Clinic**

10:07 a.m. **Mark Baker, U.S. Smokeless Tobacco**

10:10 a.m. **Mark Staples, Montana Wholesale Distributors**

10:13 a.m. **Mike Fellows, Montana Libertarian Party**

10:16 a.m. **Bob Pavlovich, Butte**

Informational Testimony:

10:21 a.m. Roger Hagen, Officer and Enlisted Mens
Associations of the Montana National Guard
EXHIBIT(tah17a15)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:26 a.m. REP. CARNEY
10:27 a.m. Mary McCue
10:28 a.m. REP. CARNEY
10:28 a.m. John Morrison
10:29 a.m. REP. COHENOUR
10:30 a.m. Dr. Sargent
10:32 a.m. REP. LAMBERT
10:32 a.m. REP. LAWSON
10:34 a.m. REP. LAMBERT
10:35 a.m. REP. LAWSON
10:36 a.m. CHAIRMAN FUCHS
10:37 a.m. REP. LAWSON
10:3 a.m. CHAIRMAN FUCHS
10:3 a.m. REP. LAWSON

Closing by Sponsor:

10:38 a.m. REP. LAWSON
10:42 a.m. Break
10:54 a.m. Resume

HEARING ON HB 355

Sponsor: REP. NEWMAN, HD 38, BUTTE

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:55 a.m. REP. NEWMAN

EXHIBIT(tah17a16)

EXHIBIT(tah17a17)

HEARING ON HB 413

Sponsor: REP. ERICKSON, HD 64, MISSOULA

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

11:06 a.m. REP. ERICKSON

EXHIBIT(tah17a18)

EXHIBIT(tah17a19)

11:17 a.m. CHAIRMAN FUCHS

Proponents' Testimony:

11:18 a.m. Don Judge, Teamsters Local 190, all 3 bills

11:20 a.m. Dr. Richard Sargent, all 3 bills

EXHIBIT(tah17a20)

EXHIBIT(tah17a21)

EXHIBIT(tah17a22)

11:25 a.m. Rita Blouk, League of Women Voters of Montana, HB 355,
HB 415

11:27 a.m. Gene Fenderson, Montana Progressive Labor Caucus

11:28 a.m. Wally Melcher, MAIDS

11:31 a.m. Hal Manson, American Legion of Montana, HB 355

11:32 a.m. Betty Whiting, Montana Association of Churches, all 3
bills

11:35 a.m. Judy Smith, W.O.R.D., Fair Share Network

11:35 a.m. Vernel Bertelson, Montana Senior Citizens Association

11:35 a.m. **Chris Christiaens, Montana Association of Social Workers**

11:35 a.m. **Jani McCall, Deaconess, YMCA**

11:35 a.m. **Dick Paulsen, Montana Lung Association**

11:36 a.m. **Erin McGowan, Protecting Montana Kids**

11:36 a.m. **Pat Melby, Montana Medical Association**

11:37 a.m. **Cliff Christian, Montana Heart Association**

11:37 a.m. **Chris Aarons**

11:37 a.m. **Sammy Butler, Montana Nurses' Association**

Opponents' Testimony:

11:37 a.m. **Mark Staples, Montana Wholesalers Association**

11:41 a.m. **Mark Baker, Smokeless Tobacco Manufacturers**

11:42 a.m. **Mike Fellows, Montana Libertarian Party**

11:43 a.m. **Mike Parker, Pennington's**

11:46 a.m. **Amiee Grmoljaz, Phillip Morris**

Informational Testimony:

11:47 a.m. **Pat Gervais, Legislative Fiscal Division**

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:47 a.m. **REP. ROSS**

11:47 a.m. **REP. NEWMAN**

11:48 a.m. **REP. LAMBERT**

11:48 a.m. **REP. NEWMAN**

11:49 a.m. **REP. LAMBERT**

11:50 a.m. **REP. NEWMAN**

11:51 a.m. **REP. WAITSCHIES**

11:51 a.m. **Pat Gervais, (LFD)**

11:51 a.m. **REP. COHENOUR**

11:52 a.m. **Dr. Richard Sargent**

11:52 a.m. **REP. COHENOUR**

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11:53 a.m. **Don Judge**

EXHIBIT(tah17a23)

Closing by Sponsor:

11:54 a.m. **REP. NEWMAN**

Closing by Sponsor:

11:55 a.m. **REP. ERICKSON**

11:58 a.m. **REP. NEWMAN**

11:59 a.m. **CHAIRMAN FUCHS**

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:59 A.M.

REP. DANIEL FUCHS, Chairman

KATHLEEN ELY, Secretary

DF/KE

EXHIBIT (tah17aad)